

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE BELFAST DISTRICT ASYLUM

FOR

THE INSANE POOR

OF THE COUNTIES OF ANTRIM AND DOWN, AND COUNTY OF THE TOWN OF
CARRICKFERGUS,

For the year ended the 31st of March, 1848.

DRAWN UP BY THE RESIDENT PHYSICIAN.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1829.

ORDERED BY THE GOVERNORS TO BE PRINTED AND CIRCULATED.

BELFAST:

PRINTED BY FRANCIS D. FINLAY
CALENDER-STREET.

1848.

CONTENTS OF REPORT.

	PAGE.
Accommodation, present state of,	18
Admissions and discharges, during the year,.. .. (Table 1),	9
Ages of Patients admitted, (Table 2),	9
“ “ discharged, (Table 9),	11
“ “ deceased, (Table 11),	12
Board Changes,	21
Condition, social, of Patients admitted, (Table 6),	10
Criminal Lunatics,	13
Dangerous Lunatics,	12
Deaths, immediate causes of, (Table 10),	12
Education, degree of, in Patients admitted, (Table 8),	11
Employment of Patients,	20
Enlargement of the Institution,	18
Expenditure and Averages of the year,	21
Farm Produce,	21
General Management,	19
Governors and Officers,	7
Health of Inmates,	16
Insanity, causes of, in year's admissions, (Table 3),	10
“ forms of, “ (Table 4),	10
Library,	19
Mortality during the year,	16
Night attendance,	20
Occupations of Patients admitted, (Table 7),	11
Religious denominations,.. .. . (Table 5),	10
Restraint,	14
Suicidal Patients,	13
Teachers,	20



Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2018 with funding from
Wellcome Library

<https://archive.org/details/b30301877>

CONTENTS OF GENERAL STATISTICAL TABLES.

	PAGE.
Admissions and Discharges of the year,	(Table 12), 23
“ “ of each County in District,	(Table 13), 23
“ “ total of each County,	(Table 13), 23
“ “ tabular view of, from first opening of the Asylum,	(Table 27), 29
Employment, general nature of,	(Table 26), 28
Insanity, forms of, and state as to recovery,	(Table 23), 27
Number remaining, and average number of each year, ..	(Table 21), 26
Percentages of Discharges and Deaths,	(Table 22), 26
“ “ for eleven years,	(Table 24), 27
Period of duration of Disease, before admission, ..	(Table 14), 24
“ of residence in Asylum,	(Table 15), 24
“ of total duration of Disease,	(Table 16), 24
Religious denomination of total number admitted, ..	(Table 20), 26
“ “ of Patients remaining,	(Table 19), 25
Season, Admissions and Discharges in each,	(Table 17), 25
Works and Manufactures during the year,	(Table 25), 28
<hr style="width: 10%; margin: 10px auto;"/>	
Financial Statement,	(Table 28), 30
Farm and Garden Produce and Expenditure,	(Table 29), 31
Dietary Table,	32

GOVERNORS

OF


THE BELFAST DISTRICT ASYLUM,

APPOINTED BY

THE LORD LIEUTENANT AND COUNCIL OF IRELAND,

Under the Provisions of 1 & 2 Geo. IV., cap. 33.

NAME.	DATE OF APPOINTMENT.	
MARQUIS OF DONEGALL,	March,	1829.
MAYOR OF BELFAST, (FORMERLY SOVEREIGN),.....	"	"
LIEUTENANT-GEN. SIR H. R. PAKENHAM, K.C.B., D.L.,	"	"
REV. THOMAS HINCKS, A.M.	"	"
SIR ROBERT BATESON, BART., D.L.,.....	29th June,	"
WILLIAM M'CANCE, J.P.,	4th Jan.,	1836.
ROBERT JAMES TENNENT, M.P., D.L.,	"	"
JOHN SINCLAIRE, ESQ.,	28th Oct.,	1837.
EDWARD BRUCE, J.P.,	"	"
RIGHT REV. BISHOP DENVIR,	"	"
REV. JOHN EDGAR, D.D.,	"	"
REV. H. MONTGOMERY, LL.D.,	"	"
VERY REV. DEAN STANNUS,	4th April,	1842.
REV. H. COOKE, D.D., LL.D.,	"	"
JAMES WATSON, ESQ.,	"	"
JOHN M'NEILE, J.P., D.I.,	"	"
R. B. B. HOUSTON, J.P., ..	"	"
REV. J. S. B. MONSELL, A.M.,	13th July,	"
CONWAY B. GRIMSHAW, ESQ.,	8th Oct.,	1846.
JOHN DUNVILLE, ESQ.,	16th March,	1847.
JOHN CLARKE, ESQ.,	13th Sept.,	1847.
MARQUIS OF DOWNSHIRE,	16th Nov.,	"
ROBERT GORDON, J.P.,	"	"
ROBERT BATT, J.P., D.L.,.....	"	"
JOHN SHARMAN CRAWFORD, J.P.,	"	"

 *Stated meetings of Governors are held, at the Asylum, the first Monday of each month, at One o'clock, p.m., to receive and dispose of applications for the admission of Patients, and for the transaction of routine and other business.*

OFFICERS :

Resident Physician and Manager.—ROBERT STEWART, M.D.

Attending Physician.—SAMUEL SMITH THOMSON, M.D.

Surgeon-Apothecary.—J. S. MULHOLLAND, M.D.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT

OF

THE BELFAST DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM,

For the Year ended the 31st day of March, 1848.

TABLE I.

General statement of year's admissions, &c.

				Males.	Females.	Total.
In Asylum, 31st March, 1847,	...	...	...	146	114	260
Admitted since,	{	New cases,	58 79 137	60	80	140
	{	Relapsed do.,	2 1 3			
Total under treatment, during the year,	...	...	...	206	194	400
Discharged, recovered,	...	...	...	31	50	81
Do., relieved,	...	...	...	12	3	15
Died,	...	...	...	18	29	47
Leaving in the Asylum, 31st March, 1848,	...	...	...	145	112	257
Being two less than that at the corresponding period of 1847.						

The admissions, during the year, were greater than in any former one, and exceeded those of last year, by twenty-seven:—

Daily average number of Patients during the year,	...	...	262.56
Do. for the year ending 31st March, 1847,	...	...	254.96

Average annual expense of each Patient, this year, including

every charge of management,	...	...	...	£15	2	7¼
That for 1847, amounted to	...	...	...	15	1	1¾
Being an increase, this year, on each Patient, of	...	...	0	1	5½	

The total expenditure of the year amounted to ... £3,972 13 4

Do. do. for the year ending 31st March, 1847,	3,839	1	7
Being an increase, this year, in the aggregate, of	133	11	9

TABLE II.

Ages of Patients admitted during the year.

					Males.	Females.	Total.
Under 20 years,	...	...	...	...	5	9	14
From 20 to 30 do.,	...	...	...	...	24	18	42
Do. 30 to 40 do.,	...	...	...	...	13	23	36
Do. 40 to 50 do.,	...	...	...	...	11	13	24
Do. 50 to 60 do.,	...	...	...	...	4	13	17
Do. 60 to 70 do.,	...	...	...	...	3	3	6
Do. 70 to 80 do.,	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
					60	80	140

TABLE III.

Alleged causes of insanity in the cases admitted during the year.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Grief—disappointment—anxiety, ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	20	26
Bodily ailments, ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
Intemperance, ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	4	12
Poverty and distress of times, ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Fright, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	6	7
Sedentary Employments, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	5	6
Injury of head, ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	1	5
Epilepsy, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Religious excitement, ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	0	4
Puerperal condition, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	4	4
Loss of money, ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	1	4
Domestic differences, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	3
Pecuniary difficulties—losses in trade, &c., ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	0	3
Desertion of husband, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	3	3
Fear of want, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Effects of fever, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Hard work, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Paralysis, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Over study, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Unknown, but traced to hereditary predisposition,						4	6	10
Totally unknown, ...	...	...	...	...	...	7	13	20
						—	—	—
						60	80	140

TABLE IV.—FORMS OF DISEASE.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Mania, ...	...	...	...	...	...	41	41	82
Mono-mania, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Melancholia, ...	...	...	...	...	...	15	32	47
Dementia, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	5	7
						—	—	—
						60	80	140

TABLE V.—RELIGION.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Episcopalian, ...	...	...	...	...	...	17	24	41
Roman Catholics, ...	...	...	...	...	...	13	21	34
Presbyterians and Protestant Dissenters, ...	...	...	...	...	...	30	35	65
						—	—	—
						60	80	140

TABLE VI.—SOCIAL CONDITION.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Married, ...	...	...	...	...	...	18	34	52
Single, ...	...	...	...	...	...	39	31	70
Widowers and Widows, ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	15	18
						—	—	—
						60	80	140

TABLE VII.—OCCUPATION.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Butcher, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Clergyman, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Clergyman's Widow,	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Cotton-spinner, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Domestic Servants,...	...	...	...	...	...	2	8	10
Dress Makers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	6	6
Embroiderers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	5	5
Farmers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	7	0	7
Farmers' Wives, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	8	8
Knitters—Spinners—Sewers,	...	...	...	...	...	0	16	16
Labourers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	21	0	21
Labourers' Wives, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	14	14
Mechanic, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Mill-workers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
Nailer, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
News Vender, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Painter, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Pedlar, ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Shoe-makers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0	2
Shop-keepers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	2	4
Stone-mason, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Student (Divinity), ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Surgeon, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Tailors, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	0	2
Weavers, ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	0	8
Writing Clerk, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
Without any known occupation, ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	17	22
						—	—	—
						60	80	140

TABLE VIII.—EDUCATION.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Well educated, ...	...	...	...	...	...	4	3	7
Can read and write, ...	...	...	...	...	...	36	39	75
Can read only, ...	...	...	...	...	...	14	24	38
Totally uneducated, ...	...	...	...	...	...	6	14	20
						—	—	—
						60	80	140

TABLE IX.

Ages of the 81 Patients discharged recovered.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Under 20 years, ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
From 20 to 30 do., ...	...	...	...	...	...	10	17	27
Do. 30 to 40 do., ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	12	20
Do. 40 to 50 do., ...	...	...	...	...	...	9	7	16
Do. 50 to 60 do., ...	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	9
Do. 60 to 70 do., ...	...	...	...	...	...	0	4	4
						—	—	—
						31	50	81

TABLE X.
Causes of death during the year.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Dysentery—Diarrhœa,	...	...	...	...	...	6	9	15
Epilepsy,	...	...	...	...	...	3	2	5
General Debility,	...	...	...	...	...	4	9	13
Phthisis,	...	...	...	...	...	2	3	5
Apoplexy,	...	...	...	...	...	1	1	2
Dropsy,	...	...	...	...	...	1	2	3
Paralysis,	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Delirium Tremens,	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Gastric disease,	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
Suicidal,	...	...	...	...	...	1	0	1
						—	—	—
						18	29	47

TABLE XI.
Ages of Patients who died during the year.

						<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Under 20 years,	...	...	...	...	...	0	1	1
From 20 to 30 do.,	...	...	...	...	...	5	5	10
Do. 30 to 40 do.,	...	...	...	...	...	4	9	13
Do. 40 to 50 do.,	...	...	...	...	...	5	4	9
Do. 50 to 60 do.,	...	...	...	...	...	2	7	9
Do. 60 to 70 do.,	...	...	...	...	...	2	1	3
Do. 70 to 80 do.,	...	...	...	...	...	0	2	2
						—	—	—
						18	29	47

DANGEROUS LUNATICS.

THE total admissions of cases of the above class, from the Jails of the District, amounted to nineteen, viz., nine males and ten females. One,—a male,—being from County Antrim Jail; and eighteen,—eight males and ten females,—from County Down Jail; all having been received, agreeably to the provisions of 1 Vict., c. 27.

The circumstances connected with the transmission of dangerous Lunatics to these Institutions are frequently productive of much inconvenience, as referred to in former Reports. First, as regards the meagreness of information supplied, of their former history, thereby causing much incompleteness in the Registries; and, secondly, as regards their subsequent discharge—there being the utmost difficulty to discover their immediate relatives, or responsible friends, as well as to prevail on them, when discovered, to bring them home. These embarrassments

arise from there being no "form" of admission, and "bond of engagement to remove," as in ordinary cases, but simply the "warrant" of Government, directing their reception. During the past year, as well as formerly, inconveniences of this kind have occurred; and considering the crowded state of the Institution, and the numerous cases of an acute character, unaccommodated, it is a hardship that it should be encumbered with objects not suited for its continued care. The facilities afforded by the above-named Act, which authorizes, that Lunatics, sworn to be "dangerous," be placed in Jails, in the first instance, there is reason to believe, are too frequently taken advantage of, to save parties further trouble or responsibility. But such facilities it seems very desirable to do away with. And now that the Asylums, generally, are about being considerably enlarged, as well as new ones built,* this Act (which was originally passed, owing chiefly to the crowded state of the Asylums), might fitly be repealed altogether, which would be the only effectual remedy, as there would always be a tendency to make its provisions available, with the view of being quickly and permanently relieved from the presence of a troublesome inmate of a family or neighbourhood, rather than obtain admission through the ordinary channels.

CRIMINAL LUNATICS.

This class of inmates continues still under the charge of the District Asylums,—the Central Asylum, for the Criminal Insane, in progress of erection, at Dundrum, in the vicinity of Dublin, not being as yet completed. It is, however, expected to be ready in about another year.

Four of the admissions of the year were of the Criminal Class, each having been tried by a Jury, for some minor offence, and acquitted on the ground of being insane at the time of its commission. The total number of Criminal Inmates now in the House amounts to eight.

SUICIDAL CASES.

Thirty-two of the admissions of the year—twelve of which

* New District Asylums have been recommended for erection at Sligo, for the Counties of Sligo and Leitrim, to contain 250 patients; at Mullingar, for the Counties of Meath, Louth, Westmeath, and Longford, to contain 400 patients; at Omagh, for the Counties of Tyrone and Fermanagh, to contain 300 patients; at Killarney, for the County Kerry, to contain 200 patients; and at Kilkenny for 150. The Central Criminal Lunatic Asylum, near Dublin, will accommodate 150 inmates.—*Parliamentary Report on the Lunatic Asylums of Ireland*, page 8. December, 1846.

were males, and thirty-two females—were of the Suicidal Class. Unhappily, one of the males, aged forty-six, an inmate about six months, accomplished his purpose, by suspending himself by his neck-cloth (while his feet nearly touched the floor) from the leg of an iron bedstead, which he had placed upright, against the wall, in one of the single sleeping apartments of the division to which he belonged. There was nothing observable in his manner previously, to lead to the supposition that he was contemplating the act of self-destruction, he having been at large, and seen in the corridor with the other Patients, within a short period of the commission of the fatal act, which was just at breakfast time,—half-past eight o'clock, A.M. A Coroner's Inquest was held on the body the same day, when a verdict in accordance with the above facts was returned.

RESTRAINT.

The cases requiring mechanical restraint, were, as usual, very few during the year, being never more than two or three at a time, and that, only at extended intervals. Notwithstanding the unqualified and oft reiterated statement, that “restraint is never necessary, never justifiable, and always injurious, in all cases of lunacy whatever,” the experience of this Institution more and more establishes the fact, that judiciously applied restraint, in extreme cases of violent maniacal excitement, and others, unnecessary here to mention, are true kindness and humanity, and that their disuse is the reverse. But mechanical restraint is had recourse to, in some of those very Institutions wherein it is stated it has been dispensed with altogether; for though the much maligned strait-waistcoat may not actually be placed—and no doubt is not—on refractory and viciously disposed patients, yet “well-secured dresses” are, with padlocked “head cases, boots,” &c.; and wherein the difference lies, so as to make the latter a “total abolition” of restraint, it is certainly difficult to imagine. As this matter, however, has already been so fully entered into in former Reports, it may suffice, on the present occasion, to quote—as corroborating the above views, and shewing that the pleaders against any restraint whatever, do really practise it as much as this Institution has ever advocated or adopted,—the following most appropriate remarks, on a subject so practically important, from the last published number

of a Medical Periodical* of the highest character, in the spirit and scope of which the Resident Physician fully and heartily concurs:—

“ The debate upon the comparative merit of the restraint and non-restraint systems of practice, of the present day, about which so much time and talent have been expended, we cannot but regard as a mere quibble, which has been agitated, exaggerated, and caricatured, by over-sensitive benevolence and refined and timid prejudice. What is the restraint system of the present day, as practised in all the Continental Asylums, and in most of the leading Asylums of our own land? It may be stated in the following terms:—that, inasmuch, as Lunatics do occasionally present the awful spectacle of the consensual supremacy of destructive impulses, with abeyance of moral liberty or control over the actions, forcible means must be resorted to, to prevent the gratification of the impulse in question; and, inasmuch as the judicious use of ingenious mechanical contrivances is more humane, certain, constant, and less painful in its operation than the hands, vigilance, and forcible control of attendants, the treatment by mechanical restraint is to be preferred to the living restraint of attendants. And, surely there is nothing in such a proposition to call up so much cavil and warm animadversion as the advocates of the opposite view have been in the habit of putting forth. Moreover, in discussing the question they have constantly identified the modified, the enlightened, the *kind and necessary restraint* of the present day, with the *dreadful details of mismanagement* of the days when Pinel and Esquirol began their labours of love and pity. And the public thus misled, have learned to associate the word ‘restraint’ *with every species of suffering and barbarity*, and to see an approach to Utopia, in the doctrine of non-restraint; little thinking, that, in avoiding Scylla, they are rushing upon Charybdis. The Physicians of the Continental Asylums are unanimous in regarding the restraint system of the present day as the most humane and best. M. Fabret says, ‘for those who know the Insane, non-restraint is a fiction,—a simple substitution of one means for another.’ We restrain a fractured limb with bandages and splints, to avoid the mischiefs that would accrue from involuntary movements. The arms of madmen are equally subject to involuntary movements, and of a most deadly kind; and whether shall we control these movements with mechanical contrivances, that are always vigilant and never passionate, or with the hands of attendants, that may, have been, and are the reverse of these?

“ No doubt it is humiliating to see an individual mechanically restrained; but is not the disease calling for it much more humiliating? If a physician feel, as we have often felt, that in particular cases, he is more likely to succeed in preserving life, by the use of mechanical restraint than without it, let him apply it. It is better that a thousand Lunatics should suffer a certain degree of unnecessary restriction, than that one life should be lost. And let not Dr. Conolly again affirm, as he did in his letter to Benjamin Rotch, Esq., that

* *Dublin Quarterly Journal of Medical Science*. New Series. No. IX., p. 149, and seq. February, 1848. Dublin: HODGES & SMITH.

an Asylum was ‘*disgraced* by the introduction of a single strait-waistcoat?’ Was this a becoming homage to the system and the labours of the great and good Pinel and Esquirol? If we examine the details of the two systems, it will be found that they differ very little from each other; the only difference, in fact, consisting in the mode of treating *two* or perhaps *three* patients in an Asylum, containing from six hundred to a thousand. See what the difference really amounts to. Dr. Conolly does not hesitate to restrain the feet, by padlocking boots upon them, when patients cannot be induced to keep them on by any other means; he does not hesitate to restrain the head, by locking it in a case, to prevent the poor patient scratching an irritated scalp; nor does he hesitate to encase the whole body, in a ‘well made, well-padded, *well-secured* dress, and a pair of soft gloves, without divisions for the fingers and thumb, if the patient be so frantic as to bite his flesh.* He does not, however, *restrain the arms specially*: *Voilà tous!* We ask, candidly, is this insignificant difference, in the treatment of so small a number of Lunatics as require any restraint at all, according to the restraint system, worthy of all the noise and cavil that have been raised about the high sounding words *restraint and non-restraint*?

“We have had experience in both the restraint and non-restraint methods; and we candidly confess, that, after having seen a lady struggling for hours, against three stout nurses, who were deputed to hold her, *per vim*, in bed, the weight of the bodies of the whole three having been, at times, suffered by her; and after having seen a gentleman confined in bed, by four men,—the excitement rising at times so high, from the fear that these men intended to murder him, that the whole four have been obliged actually to lay upon his body at once to control his motions;—we cannot understand how men can be blinded to the utility, the wisdom, the benevolence, of using mechanical restraint. In a recent conversation which we had with M. Voisin, when we visited the admirable Asylum, at Vamure, in the neighbourhood of Paris, conducted by himself and M. Fabret, he remarked,—‘I would apply mechanical restraint to my parents, in certain forms of madness, convinced that it would be the only method of treating them kindly. The sight would, no doubt, be harrowing to my feelings, but it is necessary for us to be benevolent with the *head* as well as the *heart*.’”

HEALTH OF INMATES AND MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR.

The past year was not so favourable to the general health of the establishment, as former years had been, for although fever, so exceedingly malignant and epidemic outside, sparing neither rank nor class, did not, even in a single instance, visit the Asylum, yet dysentery and diarrhoea, extensively, and for a lengthened period, prevailed in the establishment. These diseases too, were of a more than usually intractable character, resisting here, as well as in general practice, all medical treatment, and, con-

* Lancet, Nov. 1, 1845.

sequently, proving fatal, in a comparatively large number of cases of those thus attacked, thereby greatly increasing the ordinary mortality. But, although the deaths, in the aggregate, appear considerable, yet they were not more than in a corresponding ratio, with the immense mortality which occurred amongst the general population, their total amount being, as stated elsewhere, forty-seven, viz.:—eighteen males and twenty-nine females. Indeed, during a year of such unprecedented trial to the mental and physical conditions respectively, owing to the prevalence of such severe suffering, privation, and sickness, it was reasonable to expect that, not only would the number of admissions themselves be greater than usual, but, also, that their character would freely partake of the disastrous influences which had fallen with so heavy a hand on all, more or less, but especially on the poorer classes; an expectation, unhappily, which was too fully realised, the numerical amount of the cases received, being more than at any former period since the Asylum was established; and, in repeated instances, the patients having been brought in so completely shattered, in every respect, that they had to be placed in bed forthwith, their miserable condition being endeavoured to be alleviated to the utmost extent possible, till death, which was plainly inevitable from the first, closed the painful scene. Of the deaths which took place, fifteen were from dysentery and acute diarrhœa, thirteen from general debility, or gradual exhaustion, without any very evident symptoms of positive disease, five from epilepsy, five from phthisis, three from dropsical disease, two from apoplexy, one from suicide, one from delirium tremens, one from gastric disease, and one from paralysis.

Three of the above had been inmates from fifteen to twenty years; three from ten to fifteen years; nine from five to ten years; eight from one to five years; seven from six to twelve months; eight from three to six months; four from one to three months; and five from one week to four weeks. The oldest and youngest in the list of deaths were as follow:—male, sixty-one and twenty; female, seventy-three and eighteen, respectively. The usual table of ages, at the time of death, in decennial periods, will be found with the other statistical tables, embodied in the Report (Table XI., page 12.)

STATE OF ACCOMMODATION.

A nearly similar report has to be made for the year now ended, as on the last and preceding years, respecting the accommodation for Patients, which was insufficient throughout to meet the demands for males, but not for females, whose number was considerably lower than that of the males; the latter being, at the close of the year, it will be seen, thirty-two more than the former, with still three out-standing cases in ordinary, exclusive of twenty-three confined in the Jails of the District, either as "Dangerous" or "Criminal Lunatics;" thus making a total of twenty-six male cases, which would require immediate accommodation, if such were at command.

ENLARGEMENT OF INSTITUTION.

Since last year, no steps have been taken by Government to enlarge the Establishment, or to carry into effect the recommendations made by the Governors, which appeared in the Report for 1847.

A chief cause of delay, as was generally understood, has been the very serious financial difficulties of the country, making the Executive unwilling to incur any expense that could be deferred, and which, for the same reason, the Board was equally unwilling to press. Much correspondence, however, has since occurred between the Authorities and the Board, on the subject of increased accommodation being provided, and various important and absolutely requisite improvements being effected in the existing building, together with the erection of Infirmaries, New Kitchen and Laundry, Lavatories, Bath Rooms, Water-Closets, Workshops, &c., into the necessity of which former Reports have fully entered. This official correspondence resulted in Dr. White (one of the Inspectors of Lunatic Asylums), being commissioned by Government again to confer specially with the Board, which, accordingly, he did, on the 12th November last, when a very full attendance of Members being present, and the whole subject of increasing the accommodation of the Asylum having been reviewed, and carefully discussed, the Board, by a unanimous vote, adopted the annexed Resolutions, which were immediately transmitted to the Chief-Secretary's department, for the consideration of his Excellency the Lord Lieu-

tenant. To the present time, no official reply to them has been received by the Board, and thus matters remain, at this date.

The following are the Resolutions above referred to:—

“At a special meeting of the Board of Governors of the Belfast District Lunatic Asylum, held in their Board-room, on Thursday, the 12th November, 1847, Richard B. Blakiston Houston, Esq., J.P., in the Chair:—

Resolved,—1. “That it appears there are confined in the Jails, and resident in the Work-houses, of the Counties of Antrim and Down, upwards of two hundred Lunatics; that, of those in the Work-houses, about one hundred are harmless and manageable, and may, therefore, remain; but that, at least, one hundred others, are such as, from temper or hope of cure, should have accommodation provided in this Asylum.

2. “That, in the opinion of this Board, there is every reason to anticipate that a still further extension will hereafter be required; but that, considering the financial pressure of the times, they do not propose more than what appears absolutely requisite for the present emergency.

3. “That it appears to this Board, that an addition to the present grounds would, in the opinion of the Visiting and Resident Physicians, be an important contribution to the sanitary means of the Establishment; that, in case of the increase of accommodation for Patients, they would consider such increase absolutely necessary; and that the erection of an Infirmary, with Bath Rooms, and other accommodations, embracing Laundry, Kitchen, Workshops, &c., together with extended means for the classification of Patients, would also be required, whether for the comfort or restoration of the Patients, or to enable this Establishment to follow the improvements in the British, Continental, and American Asylums.

4. “That, with these several opinions of the Physicians, this Board most heartily concur, and taking into view, the rapid increase in the price of land in the neighbourhood of Belfast, would most respectfully recommend, that the necessary quantity should be purchased as soon as possible; and that, in the proposed extension of the Buildings, especial regard should be had to the providing of more suitable accommodation for the Resident Officers of the Establishment.”

GENERAL MANAGEMENT—LIBRARY.

In this section of the Report, there is but little to call for observation, on the present occasion, the subject having been already so frequently discussed. It was mentioned last year, that a Library of useful books was then in course of formation, for the improvement and amusement of the Inmates. This matter of detail has since been carried into full effect, and it is believed with much advantage and satisfaction to the Patients. Many of them read the works supplied with much interest and attention; and, by having their minds thus directed into new

channels of thought, a reasonable hope is entertained that the chain of their delusions may be broken, and their mental disease, if not ultimately removed, at least be greatly mitigated.

At all events, as regards those who can be induced to take an interest in reading fitting and suitable works, an evident improvement is observed in their conduct, cheerfulness is found to be promoted, and confinement within the walls of the Asylum is less gallingly felt.

TEACHERS.

The appointment of properly qualified persons to act as teachers of, and readers to, the Inmates, as referred to last year, has not, as yet, actually taken place; but it may be stated, that a regular system of instruction will very shortly become part of the moral treatment here, as is the case in similar Institutions.

NIGHT ATTENDANCE.

It may here be mentioned that it has been thought advisable to recommend having two persons employed as “Night-Attendants,” one at the male, and the other at the female side, to discharge such duties as the following, viz.:—going statedly through the House generally, during the hours of the night; frequently visiting sick and delicate, and epileptic inmates; administering medicine, drinks, nourishment, &c.; and exercising a special vigilance over the suicidally disposed and turbulent,—which recommendation has been accordingly adopted.

EMPLOYMENT.

Employment continues to be sedulously engaged in, in various useful ways on the grounds, and in the House. The open air avocations are of primary importance, than which none are so well calculated to benefit the mentally afflicted. Sixty males nearly, are out on the grounds daily (weather permitting), by whom the entire farming and gardening work is executed, directed and assisted, of course, by competent and responsible attendants; and though they are all in free possession of agricultural implements, in ordinary, yet happily, no accident, or other untoward event, has ever occurred from this circumstance. Those Patients, who are at all capable of exercising, but not of working, on the grounds, are regularly taken out for that purpose, each day, in fine weather.

FARM PRODUCE AND PROFIT.

The potato crop proved generally good and productive ; indeed, as to quality, nothing could have been better. Disease, however, was still apparent in it ; but, even so, the loss was not to any great extent. Only three acres of this nationally prized root were planted, it being deemed too great a risk to venture on more at the time ; but this year, it is purposed to plant much more largely. The Patients were rejoiced, beyond measure, at having this favourite esculent for their dinner discussion during a limited portion of the year, and are even already anxiously looking forward to an abundant supply being forthcoming the ensuing season ; and heart and hand are committing the seed to the ground, with many an earnest, and no doubt sincere, prayer, that a “full and plenteous” crop may come to maturity.

The other crops consisted of Oats and Hay ; Turnips, Parsnips and other vegetables ; the entire producing a nett balance to credit, after deducting all expenses, of £173 8s. 4d. ; the detailed account of which will be found amongst the Tables in the appendix.

YEAR'S AVERAGES, &c.

Average Expense, \pounds head, \pounds annum, including every charge,	£15	2	7 $\frac{1}{4}$
Average Expense, \pounds head, \pounds diem,.....	0	0	9 $\frac{7}{8}$
Total Expenditure, in food only, during the year,.....	1,950	6	8
Cost \pounds head, in food only, during the year,.....	7	8	6 $\frac{3}{4}$
Cost \pounds head, \pounds day, in food only, during the year,.....	0	0	4 $\frac{7}{8}$
Total expenditure in clothing, during the year,.....	361	12	1
Cost \pounds head in clothing, during the year,.....	1	7	6 $\frac{1}{2}$
Total expenditure in salaries and wages, during the year,.....	661	1	0
Cost \pounds head in salaries and wages, during the year,.....	2	10	4 $\frac{1}{4}$

Gross total expenditure of the year, 3,972 13 4

BOARD CHANGES.

Since last year, no fewer than four Members of the Board have died, viz.:—Sir Arthur Chichester, Bart. ; Nicholas Price, Esq., J.P. ; James Blair, Esq. ; and the Rev. Thomas Walker, Vicar of Belfast.

The early removal of the last named much and universally esteemed Member, from his important sphere of public usefulness, it need scarcely, in this place, be stated, has been greatly and sincerely regretted here, in common with the various other

Institutions which had the benefit of his valuable and effective co-operation, as indeed, by all acquainted with the many excellencies, which adorned his public and private character.

During the year, also, five new Governors were appointed by the Lord Lieutenant and Privy Council, viz.:—John Clarke, Esq., *ex* Mayor, in September last; the Marquis of Downshire; Robert Gordon, of Florida Manor; Robert Batt, of Purdysburn; and John Sharman Crawford, of Crawfordsburn, Esquires, in the month of November.

CONCLUSION.

Having made the above statement of the year's proceedings, the Resident Physician has only further to observe, that, though the year which has just terminated was, in many respects, a more than ordinarily anxious and arduous one, yet, as all, in anywise officially connected with the Establishment, were unceasingly alive to its interests, the pressing cares and responsibilities of those in immediate charge, were greatly lightened, and, under Providence, its affairs, generally, progressed in such a manner as to call forth much thankfulness.

The Governors, themselves, have the Resident Physician's best thanks, for their undiminished confidence in his conduct of the Institution, not to mention the obligations he feels under to them for their late zealous and entirely spontaneous endeavours to promote his own personal welfare and advantage.

And, as in former years, he has, also, now to acknowledge, with sincere pleasure and gratification, the cordial and able co-operation of his long tried and most deservedly respected colleague, Dr. Thomson; as, likewise, the well and duly fulfilled services of Dr. Mulholland.

ROBERT STEWART, M.D.,

RESIDENT PHYSICIAN.

Belfast District Asylum, March 31, 1848.

EIGHTEENTH ANNUAL REPORT.

GENERAL TABLES OF STATISTICS, &c., &c.

TABLE XII.,

Shewing the admissions, discharges, &c., &c., during the year ended 31st of March, 1848.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
In Asylum, 1st April, 1847,	146	114	260
Admitted from do. to 31st March, 1848, ...	58	79	137
Re-admitted, having relapsed,	2	1	3
	206	194	400
Discharged, recovered,	31	50	81
Do., relieved,	12	3	15
Died,	18	29	47
Remaining in Asylum, 31st March, 1847,	145	112	257
	206	194	400

TABLE XIII.,

Shewing the admissions, discharges, &c., from each County in the District, during the year ended 31st of March, 1848.

ADMITTED FROM EACH COUNTY.

	<i>Males.</i>	<i>Females.</i>	<i>Total.</i>
Antrim,	27	44	71
Down,	32	34	66
County of the Town of Carrickfergus, ...	1	2	3
	60	80	140

DISCHARGED TO EACH COUNTY.

Antrim,	32	43	75
Down,	28	37	65
County of the Town of Carrickfergus, ...	1	2	3
	61	82	143

REMAINING IN ASYLUM, 31st MARCH, 1848.

Antrim,	68	59	127
Down,	76	52	128
County of the Town of Carrickfergus, ...	1	1	2
	145	112	257

TABLE XIV.,

Shewing how long the Patients who were discharged, and who died, during the year, were ill before admission :—

ILL BEFORE ADMISSION.	Recovered and Relieved.		Died.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 3 months,	18	34	4	8
From 3 to 6 do.,	10	8	3	6
From 6 to 12 do.,	6	6	3	7
From 1 to 2 years,	3	3	3	2
From 2 to 5 do.,... ..	5	2	2	5
From 5 to 10 do.,... ..	1	0	2	1
From 10 to 20 do.,... ..	0	0	1	0
Total,	43	53	18	29
	96		47	

TABLE XV.,

Shewing how long the Patients who were discharged, and who died, during the year, resided in the Asylum :—

PERIOD OF RESIDENCE.	Recovered and Relieved.		Died.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 3 months,	9	15	2	7
From 3 to 6 do.,	13	14	3	4
From 6 to 12 do.,	12	14	3	4
From 1 to 2 years,	8	7	0	2
From 2 to 5 do.,	1	3	2	5
From 5 to 10 do.,	0	0	5	3
From 10 to 19 do.,	0	0	3	4
Total,	43	53	18	29
	96		47	

TABLE XVI.,

Shewing the duration of the Disease of the Patients, who were discharged, and who died, during the year :—

DURATION OF DISEASE.	Recovered and Relieved.		Died.	
	Males.	Females.	Males.	Females.
Under 3 months,	3	3	1	3
From 3 to 6 do.,	8	13	1	3
From 6 to 12 do.,	11	22	3	5
From 1 to 2 years,	14	8	2	2
From 2 to 5 do.,	4	7	2	6
From 5 to 10 do.,	3	0	5	5
From 10 to 20 do.,	0	0	4	4
From 20 to 30 do.,	0	0	0	1
Total,	43	53	18	29
	96		47	

TABLE XVII.,

Shewing the admissions and discharges, together with the average number of Patients in the Asylum, each quarter, for the year ending 31st March, 1848:—

Quarter ending.	ADMITTED.						DISCHARGED.								Average daily No. per Quarter.
	New Cases.		Relapsed Cases.		Total.		Recovered		Relieved, &c.		Died.		Total.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	
June 30, 1847,	16	22	..	1	16	23	6	5	5	1	5	12	16	18	260.42
Sept. 30, do.,	12	21	..	..	12	21	7	16	2	1	6	8	15	25	262.19
Dec. 31, do.,	17	23	1	..	18	23	12	17	1	..	2	2	15	19	262.39
Mar. 31, 1848,	13	13	1	..	14	13	6	12	4	1	5	7	15	20	265.25
Year's Total, {	58	79	2	1	60	80	31	50	12	3	18	29	61	82	262.56
	137		3		140		81		15		47		143		

TABLE XVIII.,

Shewing the aggregate admissions, discharges, &c., from each County in the District, from the opening of the Asylum, in June, 1829, till 31st March, 1848:—

COUNTIES.	ADMITTED.						DISCHARGED.								Remaining 31st March, 1848.	
	New Cases		Relapsed Cases.		Total.		Recovered		Relieved.		Died.		Total.			
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.		
Antrim,.....	454	491	27	32	481	523	236	284	65	47	112	133	413	464	68	59
Down,.....	454	410	33	28	487	438	269	252	64	42	78	92	411	386	76	52
Carriekfergus,	12	11	..	1	12	12	7	6	0	1	4	4	11	11	1	1
Total, {	920	912	60	61	980	973	512	542	129	90	194	229	835	861	145	112
	1,832		121		1,953		1,054		219		423		1,696		257	

Recapitulation of the above, with centesimal ratios:—

ADMITTED, ... {	New Cases, ...	...	1,832	Ratio, ...	...	93.80
	Relapsed, ...	...	121	Do., ...	...	6.20
			1,953			100.00
DISCHARGED, {	Recovered, ...	...	1,054	Ratio, ...	...	53.97
	Relieved, &c., ...	...	219	Do., ...	...	11.21
	Died, ...	...	423	Do., ...	...	21.66
Remaining in Asylum, ...	...	...	257	Do., ...	...	13.16
			1,953			100.00

TABLE XIX.,

Shewing the religious persuasions of the 257 Patients remaining in Asylum, on 31st March, 1848.

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.
Established Church,	33	26	59
Roman Catholics,	55	48	103
Presbyterians and Dissenters,	57	38	95
	145	112	257

TABLE XX.,

Distinguishing the religions of the total number of Patients admitted from the opening of the Asylum, in June, 1829, till 31st March, 1848, with centesimal ratios :—

	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.	RATE PER CENT.
Established Church,	235	250	485	24.83
Roman Catholics,	319	313	632	32.36
Presbyterians and Dissenters,	425	410	835	42.76
Jew,	1	0	1	.05
Totals,	980	973	1953	100.00

TABLE XXI.,

Shewing the number of Patients remaining in Asylum, on the 31st March of each year, from its opening, and the yearly average number :—

YEARS.	MALES.	FEMALES.	TOTAL.	YEARS' AVERAGE.
1830	44	34	78	39.45
1831	58	61	119	103.68
1832	66	75	141	132.65
1833	59	71	130	131.45
1834	67	78	145	136.78
1835	81	86	167	156.20
1836	80	82	162	163.37
1837	79	90	169	165.96
1838	85	93	178	178.84
1839	106	102	208	194.13
1840	123	104	227	217.35
1841	132	113	245	244.67
1842	138	112	250	246.80
1843	140	112	252	249.44
1844	144	120	264	253.15
1845	142	106	248	258.83
1846	144	112	256	252.18
1847	146	114	260	254.96
1848	145	112	257	262.56

TABLE XXII.,

Shewing the per centages of discharges and deaths, during the year ended 31st March, 1848 :—

	OF 140 RECENT CASES.		OF 260 CHRONIC CASES.		OF 400 — THE TOTAL NUMBER.	
	No. of Cases.	Rate per cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate per cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate per cent.
Discharged Recovered,	46	32.86	35	13.46	81	20.25
Do. Relieved, &c.,	6	4.29	9	3.46	15	3.75
Died,	17	12.14	30	11.54	47	11.75
Remaining,	71	50.71	186	71.54	257	64.25
Total,	140	100.00	260	100.00	400	100.00

TABLE XXIII.,

*Forms of disease of the total number of Patients remaining in the Asylum, on
31st March, 1848:—*

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Mania,	96	72	168
Do., complicated with Epilepsy,	5	4	9
Mono-mania,—Melancholia,	18	19	37
Dementia,	23	17	40
Congenital Idiocy,	3	0	3
	145	112	257

Of the above cases remaining in the Asylum, 31st March, 1848, are—

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Convalescent, } from acute Mania, { ...	11	15	26
Considered curable, } ...	21	24	45
Doubtful,	17	5	22
Considered Chronic cases, from Chronic Mania, } Epilepsy, &c.,	96	68	164
	145	112	257

TABLE XXIV.,

*Shewing the per centages of discharges and deaths, and the average per centage
calculated on the average number of Patients for eleven years, ended
31st March, 1848:—*

Years ending 31st March.	Yearly aver- age number.	RECOVERED.		RELIEVED.		DIED.	
		No. of Cases.	Rate per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate per Cent.	No. of Cases.	Rate per Cent.
1838	178.84	50	27.95	9	5.03	22	12.30
1839	194.13	58	29.87	7	3.60	16	8.24
1840	217.35	55	25.30	5	2.30	28	12.88
1841	244.67	64	26.15	9	3.67	24	9.80
1842	246.80	72	29.17	11	4.45	27	10.94
1843	249.44	90	36.08	13	5.21	18	7.21
1844	253.15	69	27.25	13	5.13	21	8.29
1845	258.83	68	26.36	21	8.14	40	15.50
1846	252.18	61	24.19	14	5.55	24	9.51
1847	254.96	60	23.53	22	8.62	27	10.58
1848	262.56	81	30.85	15	5.71	47	17.90

TABLE XXV.,

Shewing the articles manufactured and made by the Patients during the year :—

1,730 Hanks Linen Yarn.	20 Men's Jackets.
100 Hanks Thread.	24 Pairs Trousers.
1,764 Yards Plain Linen.	21 Vests.
64 Yards Twilled Linen.	6 Straw Hats.
32 Yards Ticken.	144 Shirts.
105 Yards Twilled Calico.	101 Shifts.
32 Yards Gingham.	124 Aprons.
32 Yards Diaper.	67 Petticoats.
66 Yards Chequer.	78 Wrappers.
280 Pairs Stockings.	100 Day Caps.
137 Pairs Leather Shoes.	54 Night Caps.
61 Pairs Do. Soled and Heeled.	104 Handkerchiefs.
97 Pairs List Do.	20 Gowns.
77 Pairs Sheets.	128 Bolsters.
30 Pairs Suspenders.	

TABLE XXVI.

NATURE OF EMPLOYMENT.						Males.	Females.	Total.
Cultivating the Ground, ...	...	...	...	...	...	53	—	
Weaving, winding, and warping,	...	...	...	...	...	14	—	
Making and repairing shoes, ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	
Pumping water, ...	...	...	...	...	...	8	—	
Tailoring, ...	...	...	...	...	...	3	—	
Sweeping yards, carrying coals,	...	...	...	...	...	12	—	
Breaking freestone, &c., ...	...	...	...	...	...	5	—	
Smith work, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Painting, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Basket-making, ...	...	...	...	...	...	1	—	
Spinning, ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	14	
Knitting, ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	14	
Making and repairing clothing, bedding, &c., ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	17	
Embroidering, ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	
Quilting, ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	2	
Washing, in Laundry, ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	14	
Assisting servants, ...	...	...	...	...	...	—	9	
						103	72	175

XXVII.

Tubular View of the Admissions and Discharges from first opening of the Asylum, in the year 1829, till the 31st of December, 1847.

YEARLY ADMISSIONS.					YEARLY DISCHARGES.														
YEARS.	Remaining from former year.		Admitted each year.		Total under treatment each year.		CURED.		IMPROVED.		INCURABLE.		DIED.		Total of the four preceding columns.		Remaining Yearly.		
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	T.
1829	..	27	47	32	47	32	10	4	..	3	1	2	..	16	5	31	27	58	
1830	31	55	47	48	78	75	15	14	1	3	..	4	3	20	20	58	55	113	
1831	58	74	51	49	109	104	29	22	2	3	..	10	5	41	30	68	74	142	
1832	68	88	41	32	109	106	19	24	6	6	..	15	8	52	38	57	68	125	
1833	57	68	32	43	89	111	17	25	2	6	..	5	6	24	37	65	74	139	
1834	65	74	42	43	107	117	16	22	6	3	..	7	7	29	32	78	85	163	
1835	78	85	39	37	117	122	21	26	9	4	2	7	9	39	39	78	83	161	
1836	78	83	50	45	128	128	33	22	3	3	..	14	16	50	41	78	87	165	
1837	78	87	38	53	116	140	17	27	2	8	..	11	12	30	47	86	93	179	
1838	86	93	46	52	132	145	22	33	2	4	2	5	14	31	51	101	94	195	
1839	101	94	54	59	155	153	20	36	5	1	..	10	19	35	56	120	99	217	
1840	120	97	66	60	186	157	31	36	3	3	1	14	9	49	38	137	119	256	
1841	137	119	54	52	191	171	41	35	5	6	1	11	16	58	57	133	114	247	
1842	133	114	71	55	204	269	43	44	5	3	6	8	14	62	61	142	108	250	
1843	142	108	61	48	203	156	48	28	3	8	..	10	6	61	42	142	114	256	
1844	142	114	62	57	204	171	30	31	14	5	..	15	21	59	57	145	114	259	
1845	145	114	59	49	204	163	41	31	12	5	..	8	16	61	52	143	111	254	
1846	143	111	43	63	186	174	25	34	4	10	1	2	16	17	46	63	140	111	251
1847	140	111	63	84	203	195	29	46	11	5	..	17	24	57	75	146	120	266	
			966	961			507	530	109	86	15	3	189	222	820	841			
			1,927				1,037		195		18		411		1,661				

RECAPITULATION.

	Males.	Females.	Total.
Total Admissions to 31st December, 1847,	966	961	1,927
Total Discharges to 31st December, 1847,	820	841	1,661
Remaining in Asylum, 1st January, 1848,	146	120	266

TABLE XXVIII.

<i>An Account of Receipts and Disbursements of the BELFAST DISTRICT ASYLUM, for one year, being from 1st April, 1847, to 31st March, 1848.</i>		
The Charge.		
Balance of last account, in favour of the public	£24 2 11	
Received from the Lords Commissioners' of her Majesty's Treasury	3,994 13 7	£4,018 16 6
Received for Garden Vegetables sold... ..	25 13 0	
" for Oats sold	22 8 0	
" for Timber Cuttings sold	0 10 0	
		48 11 0
" Cash unclaimed by friends of a Patient deceased ...	2 9 6	
" Bonus on Policies of Insurance... ..	1 9 3	
" for Bones sold	1 1 7	
		5 0 4
		£4,072 7 10
Balance in favour of the public, 1st April, 1848,		£99 14 6
The Discharge.		
Paid for Provisions	1,950 6 8	
" " Clothing	361 12 1	
" " Bedding	233 16 7	
" " Furniture	60 2 2	
" " Stationery, Printing, &c.	35 0 2	
" " Coals, Soap, and Gas	310 14 11	
" " Medicine	28 14 6	
" " Repairs on Buildings	186 18 11	
" " Farm and Garden expenses	63 18 8	
" " Incidental expenses ...	72 11 8	
" " Insurance	7 16 0	
" " Salaries and wages ...	661 1 0	
		£3,972 13 4
Balance on hands, 1st April, 1848,		99 14 6
		£4,072 7 10

TABLE XXIX.

An Account of the Expenditure and Produce of the BELFAST DISTRICT ASYLUM, for one year, being from 1st April, 1847, to 31st March, 1848.

Dr.	EXPENDITURE.	Cr.	PRODUCE.	
To Seed Potatoes ...	... .. £13 15 6	By 400 cwt. Potatoes (used in establishment), valued at 4s6d per cwt.		£90 0 0
“ Seeds and plants ...	... .. 11 18 4	“ 76 cwt. Oats (used in establishment), at 7s per cwt....	£26 12 0	
“ Stones for Draining... ..	23 17 6	“ 64 cwt. Oats, sold at 7s per cwt.	22 8 0	
“ Spades, Scythes, Hooks, &c. ...	5 10 2	“ 280 cwt. Straw (used in establishment), at 1s 6d per cwt. ...		49 0 0
“ Tythe	3 16 6	“ 140 cwt. Hay (used in establishment), at 2s per cwt....		21 0 0
“ Bran	2 18 6	“ 100 cwt. Turnips (used in establishment), at 6d per cwt....		14 0 0
“ Shoeing Farm and Market		“ 20 cwt. Parsnips (used in establishment), at 2s per cwt. ...	25 13 0	2 10 0
Horse	1 14 8	“ Vegetables sold	31 4 0	2 0 0
“ Clipping ditto,	0 7 6	“ Do. used in establishment ...		56 17 0
	£63 18 8	“ Osier Rods, made into baskets,...		1 10 0
“ Balance	173 8 4	“ Timber Cuttings sold,		0 10 0
	£237 7 0			£237 7 0
		“ Balance		£173 8 4

Dietary

OF

THE BELFAST DISTRICT ASYLUM

FOR THE INSANE POOR.

BREAKFAST.


One Quart Stirabout (made with 7oz. of coarse, or 8oz. of fine meal) and	} Males.	} each Morning.
Three-fourths of a pint of new or mixed milk, ...		
One pint and a-half Stirabout, and	} Females.	
One half-pint new or mixed milk,		

DINNER.

One half-pound loaf bread, and	} Males.	} Sunday, Tuesday, Wednesday, & Thursday.
One quart soup,		
One half pound loaf bread, and	} Females.	
One and half-pint soup,		
Three-quarters of a lb. loaf bread, and	} Males.	} Monday, Friday, and Saturday.
One pint mixed milk,		
One half-pound loaf bread, and	} Females.	
One pint mixed milk,		

SUPPER.

One half-pound loaf bread, and	} Males.	} Each Evening.	
Three-fourths of a pint mixed milk,			
Six ounces loaf bread, and	} Females.		
One half-pint mixed milk,			

 Those of the convalescent Patients, who are actively employed, are allowed four ounces of cooked meat, in addition to the soup, four days in the week. When the State of the Patients' health requires it, the diet is changed, accordingly, and any other substituted that may be considered necessary.

REPORTS RECEIVED.

THE following Reports having been received, in exchange, during the past year, the respective transmitters thereof are requested to accept many thanks for the same. It may be mentioned that each Public Asylum in the United Kingdom, in particular, as far as can be ascertained, is regularly supplied with the Reports of this Institution, whose Reports in return would be deemed a great favour:—

- 1.—ABERDEEN LUNATIC ASYLUM (April, 1847),—J. F. Ogilvie, M.D., Resident Medical Officer and Superintendent.
- 2.—CUMBERLAND COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM, at Dunston-Lodge (Jan., 1847),—N. Watson, M.R.C.S., House Surgeon.
Do. do. Appendix to Report for 1847.
- 3.—DORSET COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM (Dec., 1847),—G. P. Button, M.D., Medical Superintendent.
- 4.—DUMFRIES (CRICHTON) ROYAL INSTITUTION FOR LUNATICS, Eighth Annual Report (Nov., 1847), W. A. F. Brown, M.D., Resident Physician.
- 5.—DUNDEE ROYAL ASYLUM FOR LUNATICS, Twenty-seventh Annual Report (June, 1847),—Alex. Mackintosh, M.D., Medical Superintendent.
- 6.—EDINBURGH ROYAL LUNATIC ASYLUM (Dec., 1847),—D. Skae, M.D., Resident Physician.
- 7.—HARTFORD (CONN.) RETREAT FOR THE INSANE, U.S.A., Twenty-second and Twenty-third Annual Reports (April, 1846 and 1847),—John S. Butler, M.D., Resident Physician and Superintendent.
- 8.—LANCASTER COUNTY LUNATIC ASYLUM (June, 1847),—S. Gaskell, F.R.C.S., England, Medical Superintendent.
- 9.—LIMERICK DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM (March, 1847),—John Jackson, Manager.
- 10.—MARYBOROUGH DISTRICT LUNATIC ASYLUM, Fourteenth Annual Report (March, 1847),—William Abbott, Manager.
- 11.—MORNINGSIDE MIRROR, Monthly Periodical, conducted by Inmates of Edinburgh Royal Asylum.
- 12.—NOTTINGHAM GENERAL LUNATIC ASYLUM, Thirty-seventh Annual Report (Jan., 1848),—J. S. Alderson, M.R.C.S., Medical Superintendent.
- 13.—FURTHER PARLIAMENTARY REPORT OF COMMISSIONERS IN LUNACY, of Lunatic Asylums in England and Wales (June, 1847.)
- 14.—PARLIAMENTARY REPORT OF INSPECTORS OF LUNATIC ASYLUMS IN IRELAND (Dec., 1846.)

- 15.—**SALOP AND MONTGOMERY LUNATIC ASYLUM**, First and Second Annual Reports (March, 1846 and 1847),—Richard Oliver, M.D., Resident Physician.
- 16.—**STAFFORDSHIRE GENERAL LUNATIC ASYLUM**, Twenty-ninth Annual Report (Dec., 1847),—Mr. Wilkes, M.R.C.S., Resident Medical Officer and Superintendent.
- 17.—**SUFFOLK LUNATIC ASYLUM**, Tenth Annual Report (Dec., 1847),—John Kirkman, M.D., Resident Physician and Superintendent.
- 18.—**WARNEFORD HOSPITAL FOR THE INSANE**, Oxford (Dec., 1847),—F. T. Wintle, M.D., Resident Physician and Superintendent.
- 19.—**YORK (FRIENDS) RETREAT**, Fifty-first Annual Report (June, 1847),—J. S. Thurnam, M.D., Medical and General Superintendent.